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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/899,464	07/05/2001	Sundaram Ramakesavan	INTL-0596-US (P11737)	3421

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EXAMINER

GESESSE, TILAHUN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2684

DATE MAILED: 04/20/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No. 09/899,464	Applicant(s) RAMAKESAVAN, SUNDARAM	
Examiner Tilahun B Gesesse	Art Unit 2684	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 February 2004.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-15 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 16-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is in response to applicant's response filed February 12, 2004, in which claims 1 through 15 has been cancelled and claims 16 through 30 are pending.

Specification

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 16-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Degnbol (WO 00/22860).

As to claim 16, Degnbol discloses receiving character set independent information about a participant in an ad hoc wireless network (page 9, line 15 through page 10, line 4 and figure 1), and displaying the information to enable selection of a participant for a communication (page 10 lines 5-11).

As to claim 17, Degnbol discloses receiving audio file that identifies a participant (page 5, lines 5-21).

As to claims 18,19, Degnbol discloses receiving a user selectable icon that may be selected to receive additional information about a participant (page 5, lines 15-21).

As to claim 20, Degnbol discloses receiving an image file identifying a participant

(page 5, lines 15-26).

As to claim 21, Degnbol discloses a system (figure 1) comprising: a processor (processor of figure 1); and a storage (database of figure 1) coupled to the processor storing instructions that enable the processor to handle character set independent information about a participant in an ad hoc wireless network (page 20, line 22-page 21 line 20 and figure 1) and display the information to enable selection of a participant for a communication (page 10 lines 5-11).

As to claim, 22, Degnbol discloses the storage stores instructions that enable the processor to receive an audio file that identifies a participant (page 20, line 22-page 21 line 20 and figure 1).

As to claim 23 Degnbol discloses the storage stores instructions that enable the processor to generate a user selectable icon that may be selected to receive additional information about a participant (page 20, line 22-page 21 line 20 and figure 1).

As to claim 24, Degnbol discloses the storage stores instructions that enable the processor to allow the user to select an icon to receive additional information about a participant and generate an image identifying a participant (page 20, line 22-page 21 line 20 and figure 1).

As to claims 25, Degnbol discloses receiving character set independent information about a participant includes receiving an audio file that identifies a participant (page 9, line 15 through page 10, line 4 and figure 1).

As to claim 26, Degnbol discloses a system comprising: a processor (figure 1)

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and a storage (database) coupled to the processor storing instructions that enable the processor to handle character set independent information about a participant in an ad hoc wireless network and transmit the information to other participants (page 23 lines 11-31 and figure 1)

As to claims 27-28, Degnbol discloses the storage stores instructions that enable the processor to receive an alert "audible file" , select icon and to generate an image that identifies a participant (page 5, lines 1-5, lines 15-20 and page 10 lines 5-11).

As to claims 29-30, Degnbol discloses the storage stores instructions that enable the processor to receive an alert "audible file" , select icon and to generate an image that identifies a participant (page 5, lines 1-5, lines 15-20 and page 10 lines 5-11).

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed February 12, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive for the following reasons.

The title has been objected because the title as submitted "identifying multilingual participants" in network communications. However, the claims as filed, are identifying participants in ad hoc network. There is no subject matter claimed that indicates the participants are multilingual. Therefore, correction of the title is advised in order to the title reflect applicant's claim.

On page 4, first paragraph of response applicant argued that Degnbol is a system for enabling a user to know when other buddies are in sufficiently close proximity.

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The examiner agrees. The ad hoc network is a network that is enabled to communicate participants in a range of short distance. Therefore, Degnbol teaches communication is in place whenever or automatically notification is send to user based on the users present of proximity (abstract).

On page 4, third paragraph of response applicant argued that Degnbol does not automatic transmitting of character set independent information about participants.

The examiner disagrees. Degnbol teach automatically exchanging or submitting buddy lists (page 5, lines 25-34 and abstract).

In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., the character set independent information is transmitted to anybody, much less other participant in the network) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

On page 4, fourth paragraph of response, applicant argued that Degnbol does not teach participant profile be exchanged.

The examiner disagrees. Degnbol teaches participant profile be exchanged (page 20 line 34-page 21 line 6).

To sum up, based on teaching cited in the applied prior art and response to the argument, Degnbol clearly anticipates the broadly recited applicant's claims.

Conclusion

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Kulikov et al (US 2002/0122410) discloses ad hoc network (figures 1-14) and method of wireless data exchange amongst ad hoc mobile devices of limited range with a communication network (abstract) and further more, Kulikov et al teach an associatively is formed a neighboring mobile unit's identifier beacon and a new mobile user appears on the icon on the user's screen (see paragraph 0151) and image (paragraph 0165).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tilahun B Gesesse whose telephone number is 703-308-5873. The examiner can normally be reached on flex.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nay Maung can be reached on 703-308-7745. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TBG

April 14, 2004

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JOHANNES GEESCHE
PATENT EXAMINER